

# Acupuncture & Chinese Herbs

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## SB 1052 - An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture

Testimony of Deborah Pacik, Licensed Acupuncturist

Public Health Committee Public Hearing March 2nd, 2011

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, and Members of the Public Health Committee:

I am a licensed acupuncturist practicing in Mansfield, CT. My patients come from many different towns spanning several counties: Tolland, Windham, New London, Middlesex and Hartford. I have lived and practiced acupuncture in Connecticut since 2004.

Thank you for raising SB 1052 and I strongly encourage you to approve the bill in your committee. This bill is very important since it more accurately reflects the practice and standard of care than the current act. Acupuncture is considered an entire system of medicine, from diagnosis to treatment. Diagnosis utilizes both Asian medical terminology as well as biomedical terms such as sciatica and hemiplegia. Asian medical terminology is necessary for determining the appropriate treatment whereas biomedical terminology is used in communication with physicians and other health care practitioners as well as insurance reimbursement. I have many patients coming to me for problems with infertility but each person has a different pattern of disharmony that determines my choice of acupoints and herbs.

I graduated from the New England School of Acupuncture in 1996 with a Master's of Acupuncture. I spent three years and several thousand hours studying diagnosis according to Asian medical theory, point location, treatment techniques, herbs and herbal combinations. Every year I study with experts in the field to learn new techniques and methods of treatment. Licensed acupuncturists spend years studying and this bill would reflect the depth of knowledge necessary to practice acupuncture.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Deborah M. Pacik, L.Ac.

cc: Senator Donald Williams, Jr., Representative Greg Haddad

